

Saxmundham Tennis Club
Welfare Officer Report 17.2.22
Nicole Hobson

- DBS certificates

Name	DBS NO	Date of issue	Seen	Safeguarding training updates
Matt Last	001664543566	08.07.2019		
Nicole Hobson	001729697336	23.03.21		Updated Sept 21
Richard Crone	C7927011084	Update service		7.12.21
Ewan Maddison Gibbons	To be completed 2022			

- All policies updated 2021. To be reviewed on or before October 2023.
- Communication reminding all tennis members to ‘speak up’ will be published in each newsletter, this is to encourage all members to speak out about any inappropriate behaviour from tennis members following an extra-ordinary meeting and the subsequent email (November 2021) – encouraging a positive tennis culture and responsibility for all members at Saxmundham Tennis Club.
- Moving forward – suggestion that all members should be required to read and sign up to adhering to our club policies before they can join as a member at our club. This will require updating the wording and processes on ClubSpark.
- I attended the first LTA National Safeguarding Conference on 11.09.21

One speaker - Karen Leach of the leading voices in international work against sexual abuse and harassment in sport across the world. Safe Sport Advocate; VOICE Ambassador (Voices for Truth and Dignity Combatting Sexual Violence in European Sport through the Voices of Those affected), Sport England Advisory Panel, Pool of European Experts on Sexual Violence in Sport, Safeguarding Children in Sport Strategic Group Northern Ireland, Psychotherapist, Facilitator, Moderator.

Karen shared her own childhood experiences of abuse. As a child, Karen was recognized as a talented swimmer with strong aspirations and a realistic chance of representing Ireland at the Olympic Games. Between the ages of 10 and 17, Karen spent endless hours in the swimming pool.

During this time, Karen was routinely abused by her coach. Since the publication of her lived experience in the book *Deep Deception, Irelands Swimming Scandals*. Karen has been speaking out across the world and advocating on behalf of children, young people, adults at risk, all athletes.

She is working to create a greater level of awareness to encourage safer spaces for everyone at risk in sport, working regularly with international organizations in an advisory role, public speaking capacities, facilitating various group work, moderating at different events across the world. Karen is a psychotherapist through this avenue she has been able to help and support others, including those who have suffered abuse.

A learning point from this session that I want to share is that everyone involved in sports has a duty to speak out. We should ensure we have a safe space and advocate for those who maybe cannot speak out. Safeguarding children, young people and adults is everyone's business.

Nicole Hobson
Welfare Officer